

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 01628 030621Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 INT-05 L-03 TRSE-00  
OPIC-03 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /062 W  
-----099568 031220Z /17  
R 030549Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2584

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EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EMIN, EINV, AS  
SUBJECT: DILLINGHAM CLAIM

REF: CANBERRA 01498

1. AS PREDICTED REFTTEL, DILLINGHAM REPRESENTATIVES DERRY HILL AND MIKE BRADFIELD CALLED ON ME MARCH 3 TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF THEIR MEETING WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY FEBRUARY 28, AND TO SEEK OUR ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE ON THE COURSE OF ACTION DILLINGHAM, AND THE USG, SHOULD NOW PURSUE.

2. I TOLD DILLINGHAM REPS THAT I SYMPATHIZED WITH THEIR PLIGHT AND THAT I FELT THAT DILLINGHAM HAD BEEN UNFAIRLY TREATED; THAT UNDER EQUITY THE OUTCOME WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT. I SAID NEVERTHELESS THE EMBASSY HAD INTERCEDED TIME AFTER TIME WITH THE GOA ON DILLINGHAM'S BEHALF AND I BELIEVED THERE WAS NO FURTHER USEFUL ROLE THE U.S. EMBASSY IN CANBERRA COULD PLAY VIS-A-VIS THE GOA.

3. I SUGGESTED THAT DILLINGHAM ITSELF WOULD, IN MY JUDGMENT, HAVE TO CARRY THE BALL FROM HERE ON, WHETHER BY BRINGING SUIT IN AUSTRALIA AGAINST GOA ACTION (BOTH HILL BRADFIELD FELT THIS WAS DOMMED TO FAILURE, AND I TEND TO AGREE) OR THROUGH SOME INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM SUCH AS THE INTER-  
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PAGE 02 CANBER 01628 030621Z

NATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE.

4. BOTH BRADFIELD AND HILL APPEARED TO ACCEPT THIS POINT OF VIEW. BOTH HOPE THAT IF REQUESTED FOR AN OPINION BY DOS THIS EMBASSY WOULD STATE THE SAME CONCEPT AS IS EXPRESSED IN FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH TWO ABOVE.

5. MY RECOMMENDATION WHICH IS SHARED BY DCM IS THAT  
THIS EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE NO FURTHER DEMARCHE TO THE GOA ON  
DILLINGHAM. WE HAVE REACHED THAT POINT OF DIMINISHED  
RETURNS IN OUR NUMEROUS REPRESENTATIONS THAT TO GO FURTHER  
WOULD, IN MY OPINION, JEOPARDIZE OTHER MORE IMPORTANT GOALS  
IN US-AUSTRALIAN RELATONS.  
ALSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CLAIMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CANBER01628  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3132822  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DILLINGHAM CLAIM  
**TAGS:** EMIN, EINV, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014